

4/30/14

Grant RFA# G-0287 DLTC-14 Wisconsin Project SEARCH Expansion
Questions and Answers

Question	Answer
<i>Page 2</i> What does site licensing involve?	The license is a legal agreement between Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center and the Project SEARCH site. Any of the required partner agencies may sign and hold the license on behalf of the partnership.
<i>Page 2 & 10</i> What is the cost of the Project SEARCH license after the first year and how long must it be renewed?	There is an annual fee to maintain the license, which must be renewed each year that the program site is in operation. The license fee is currently \$300 per year. The license fee is not charged until after the completion of the first year of operation.
<i>Page 3</i> For the Joint Partnership meetings – is each training segment 2 days (10 total days of training, provided in succession?) – or are all segments provided during a 2-day period?	The training and technical assistance will be designed to meet the needs of the successful applicants. The Joint Partnership meetings will likely include ten total days of training, provided in two day segments, spread over the course of the year. The training topics will reflect the activities that are required at the relevant point in the planning process. Individual team trainings may look different based on their needs.
<i>Page 3</i> For the Individual Partnership meetings – is each training segment 1 day (total of 3 days) – or are all segments provided the same day?	The training and technical assistance will be designed to meet the needs of the successful applicants. The Individual Partnership meetings will likely include three total days of training, provided in one day segments, spread over the course of the year. The training topics will reflect the activities that are required at the relevant point in the planning process. Individual team trainings may look different based on their needs.
<i>Page 3</i> How firm is the 'at least 3' requirement for attending the national conference?	The RFA states that successful partnerships will be required to send at least three representatives of the partnership to the International Project SEARCH Conference in Omaha, NE on July 22-25,

	<p>2014. Some conference expenses will be covered by DHS for successful applicants, however the final amount has not yet been determined. It is anticipated that DHS will cover travel to and from Omaha, the conference registration fee, and lodging for the conference for three participants from each successful applicant partnership, subject to State funding availability. This does not alter the requirements in the Financial Commitment section of the RFA.</p>
<p><i>Page 3</i></p> <p>Do the national conference attendees have to represent each entity or could all three be from the vocational services provider?</p>	<p>It is highly recommended that the successful applicant partnerships send representatives from multiple partner agencies, rather than only one. Attendance at the International Project SEARCH Conference is highly recommended for all Project SEARCH partners. The conference offerings are extensive and each partnership is encouraged to send participants from multiple partner agencies in order to learn as much as possible about each partner's role in the Project SEARCH model. It is very important that at least a representative from the school and the vocational services provider attend.</p>
<p><i>Page 4</i></p> <p>What is the program fee for participating students?</p>	<p>Project SEARCH is funded through a braided funding agreement among required partners. In most cases, Project SEARCH interns do not pay any program fees. This will be more fully explained in the initial training for successful applicants.</p>
<p><i>Page 4</i></p> <p>Is there a standard rate reimbursement from DVR for the job coaching provided at the business site? If there is not a state-wide rate, is the rate expected to be negotiated within each workforce development area?</p>	<p>There is a standard rate reimbursement from DVR that is used statewide for all Project SEARCH sites.</p>
<p><i>Page 4</i></p> <p>Is there a standard or typical revenue and expense allocation between partners? Can you supply specific financial examples?</p> <p><i>Page 5</i></p> <p>Can you provide examples of braided funding and/or sources? What are the typical components</p>	<p>Project SEARCH is based on a partnership and braided funding structure that typically includes a local business, school partners and DVR. All partners are vital to the success of the program.</p> <p>The host business, such as a hospital, provides a training classroom, a business liaison and internships for on-the-job training, and orientation services.</p>

of this particular braided funding?	<p>The school partner hires and supports an instructor for each site. The instructor implements the Employability Skills curriculum, coordinates needed services and accommodations, and provides oversight.</p> <p>DVR provides vocational counseling and coordination, in addition to contracting with a vocational service agency to support young adults in their internships and assist with final job placement. DVR may also provide other necessary services to assist individuals with their employment goals.</p> <p>The vocational services agency typically provides job coaching and job development, as well as assisting with accommodations.</p> <p>For the school partners, the cost per young adult member varies by site, but in 2013, costs paid by the school partners averaged \$6,500 to \$7,000 per intern for the school year. DVR contributes to the cost of Project SEARCH simultaneously along with the school. In 2013, DVR contributed between \$6,700-\$8,000 per student for job support and other services.</p>
<i>Page 5</i> Is more than one host business allowable?	The Project SEARCH model is designed to take place in a single host business. Exceptions may be made if there are related businesses in very close proximity that may provide additional rotation opportunities for interns, however that structure is not considered optimal.
<i>Page 5</i> Can you provide a number as it pertains to the “multi-year business plan for Project SEARCH implementation?”	The business plan is developed as part of the site planning process and is used when developing relationships with the host business. The plan describes the Project SEARCH model and activities during the planning and implementation phases of the program.
<i>Page 5</i> Define “certificate of good standing with the Secretary of State,” and how an agency obtains one.	Please see the amendment to remove this language from the RFA.
<i>Page 9: Section IV, Part B, #4</i> How many businesses (that employ more than 200 people) are we recommended to provide in our response?	Applicants should describe any local businesses that they are considering as potential Project SEARCH host sites.

General	
What are the eligibility requirements for students enrolling in the project?	<p>Project SEARCH eligibility:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18 – 21 years old (up to age 25 in some WI sites) • Appropriate hygiene, dress, social and communication skills • Ability to take direction and change behavior • Access public transportation or other community transportation options • Pass drug screen, background check, immunizations • Have a desire to work • Complete an extensive student selection process • DVR eligibility • Applicants have some previous vocational or volunteer experience • Applicants have all high school credits completed • Applicants do not accept diploma prior to entering Project SEARCH • Project SEARCH is usually the last year of high school participation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dane County is an exception due to graduation work requirement. • Interns must be willing to enter the world of work upon completion of Project SEARCH. • Applicants must request a referral for DVR and begin the DVR approval process. • Applicants must indicate how their participation will be funded. <u>DVR plus:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School • Family Care (in some sites) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/lcicare/Partners/infoseries/rs13-02.pdf • IRIS (in some sites) • Private pay • Other • Eligibility requirements may be customized to meet the needs of the partners and business and to reflect internship skills
What percentage of program participants have been placed into a paid job after completing an internship?	<p>Wisconsin's 2012 Graduates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 87% were employed within one year of graduation. • 75% were working at least 15 hours per week. • All of the employed graduates were working in the community and were making minimum wage or above. • Employed graduates averaged 25 hours per week. • 32% were hired at the host business in Room Service, Distribution, Emergency Services,

	Sterile Processing, Post-anesthesia Care Unit, and Logistics.
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